

# Shauraseni Prakrit

**Shauraseni Prakrit** was a Middle Indo-Aryan language and a Dramatic Prakrit. Shauraseni was the chief language used in drama in northern medieval India. Most of the material in this language originates from the 3rd to 10th centuries, though it was probably a spoken vernacular around the 2nd century BCE in the ancient state of Surasena. Among the Prakrits, Shauraseni is said to be the one most closely related to Classical Sanskrit in that it "is derived from the Old Indian [Indic] dialect of the Madhyadeśa on which Classical Sanskrit was mainly based."<sup>[2]:3-4</sup> Its descendants include the languages of the Hindi Belt, the Central Zone of modern Indic or Hindi languages, the standard registers of the Hindustani language based on the Dehlavi dialect.<sup>[3]</sup>

Jain acharyas belonging to the Digambara sect wrote in Shauraseni. The *Ṣaṭkhaṇḍāgama* and the *Kāsāyapahuḍa* are two major Jain epics in Shauraseni.

## See also

- Saurashtra language
- Apabhraṃśa
- Prakrit
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## References

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- Woolner, Alfred C. "Introduction to Prakrit" (https://archive.org/details/introductiontopr00woolrich). Calcutta: University of the Punjab. Retrieved 2 March 2016.
- http://linguistlist.org/forms/langs/LLDescription.cfm?code=psu

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Śaurasenī Prākṛt	
<span></span> <div>Brahmi: <span>𑀭𑀸𑀲𑀺𑀓</span><div>Devanagari: शौरसेनी</div></div>	
Region	India
Era	c. 5th century BCE
Language family	<div>Indo-European <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li> Indo-Iranian<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Indo-Aryan<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Classical Sanskrit<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Śaurasenī Prākṛt</b></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul></div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	psu
Glottolog	saur1252 ( <span>http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/saur1252</span> ) <sup>[1]</sup>